

2003 - GRAND MARSHALS

The American Legion - Post 223, Duxbury

The Fourth of July Parade Committee named the American Legion Post 223 Parade Marshals for the July 4, 2003 Parade. The committee is bestowing this honor on the Legion in recognition of the Legion's long years of service to the Town of Duxbury, especially to the veterans and youth of Duxbury.

The original charter for Legion Post 223 was issued on October 7, 1919. The first meeting was held on November 5, 1920, at the local Masonic Hall on Washington Street. The American Legion Auxiliary was chartered in 1922. In 1931, the Town of Duxbury sold the American Legion the premises they now occupy for the sum of one dollar. The building used to be an old schoolhouse. Over the years, the Legion added on to the building and renovated the interior.

Among the post commanders are several familiar names (William Turner (1920), Fred Merry (1923), Walter Prince (1930), Ray Chandler (1949), Lloyd Chandler (1955), Bob White (1957), Sumner Shane (1963), Jack Ried (1972), and Jerry Dewing (1983).

The present post officers are:

Commander: Robert Cline

Sr. Vice Commander: Anthony Binsfield

Jr. Vice Commander: John Grandy

Adjutant: David Murphy

Judge Advocate: Franklin Miles, Jr.

Chaplain: Mary Jane Wakefield

Historian: Tom Corn

Financial Officer: William Newman

The Legion has always been respected for decorating the graves of veterans on Memorial Day, holding Memorial Day and

Veterans Day ceremonies, and entertaining vets from the Brockton VA Hospital with dinner and entertainment at the post. The Legion has also sponsored Legion baseball for 25 years, sponsored a Duxbury youth baseball team, held awards banquets for Duxbury High athletes and their families, and granted numerous scholarships to graduating seniors. For decades the Legion has sent four boys and four girls to Boys State and Girls State, an annual, Legion-sponsored state leadership program.

Perhaps the Legion's greatest contribution over the years has been in teaching young people to respect the American flag and the men and women who have served their country (past and present) to defend the flag and all that it stands for. On the occasion of the Fourth of July 2003, we salute the American Legion Post 223.

Written by Maggie Kearney, 2003

DUXBURY FOURTH OF JULY

